



HOLIDAY ONLINE SHOPPING CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

Those of us at home comfortably buying gifts online are completely safe from thieves, right? Unfortunately, we are not always home to receive those packages, and criminals know unsupervised packages make easy targets. Black Friday and Cyber Monday are just around the corner, so thieves will be looking for unattended packages. Here are a few tips on how to avoid package theft to ensure those shipped gifts stay safe:

- ❖ For those who use Amazon.com, consider using the Amazon Locker feature (your packages are shipped to a location convenient for you to pick up instead of being delivered to your home).
 - ❖ Info link: <https://www.amazon.com/b?node=6442600011>
- ❖ Most retailers provide tracking numbers for packages shipped, and the largest services (UPS, FedEx, USPS) can email or text you delivery status updates. This will allow you to see the date and time your packages were delivered.
- ❖ Have packages shipped to your workplace, or to a local friend or family member you know will be home.
- ❖ Ask the carrier for a specific drop-off time when you know you will be home.
- ❖ Request the package be delivered to the retail store so you can pick it up at your convenience.
- ❖ If you live in an apartment complex or a location with an on-site office, have your packages delivered there.
- ❖ Require signature confirmation so that your items cannot be left unattended.
- ❖ If your packages do not arrive on schedule, contact the sender and carrier immediately. Be proactive!
- ❖ If you are home and see suspicious people in your neighborhood, contact RPD at the non-emergency number: 530-225-4564.
- ❖ If you have a neighborhood watch group in your area, create a package theft prevention action plan.
- ❖ Stay connected with your watch group through emails, telephone tree, texts, or NextDoor.com to see what is happening in your neighborhood.

These suggestions may require an extra step, but are well worth it to thwart thieves from ruining your Christmas!